



# STORY BOX LIBRARY 2020 CBCA BOOK WEEK ACTIVITIES



# ACTIVITY TIME COLLECTION





## HOW TO USE ACTIVITY TIME

Every CBCA-shortlisted story on Story Box Library comes with an Activity Time video and instruction sheet to engage curious young minds.

Our Activity Time ideas provide a variety of experiences to help children connect to the stories. Through active participation, children are preparing to become readers as they learn to draw on prior knowledge to comprehend a text.

Each Activity Time experience differs from the next—sometimes the focus will be on movement or creativity and other times on playing or exploring; they all encourage the development of knowledge, skills and understandings that are consistent with the Early Years Learning Framework for Australia and the Australian Curriculum.

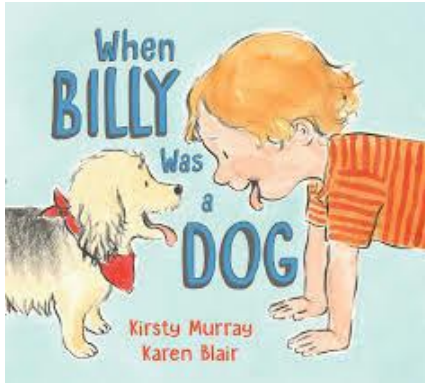
### *The aims of Activity Time are to*

- Encourage children to become active participants in the story, helping them to better understand the feelings and motivations of characters.
- Help children make connections between the story and their own personal experiences.
- Provide opportunities for play, discovery, imagination and critical thinking.
- Encourage creativity and curiosity.
- Encourage children to explore, connect and contribute to the world around them.
- Provide opportunities for movement and the development of gross and fine motor skills.
- Provide opportunities for family members, friends and community members to connect, and for children to practise communication and cooperation skills.
- Promote an active, balanced lifestyle for young children.
- Provide opportunities for children to try new things.



# Love the story?

## Get busy with Activity Time!



### When Billy was a Dog

**Author:**  
Kirsty Murray

**Illustrator:**  
Karen Blair

**Publisher:**  
Allen & Unwin  
Australia, 2019

**Themes:**  
Animals, Pets, Family  
Life, Friendship, Play

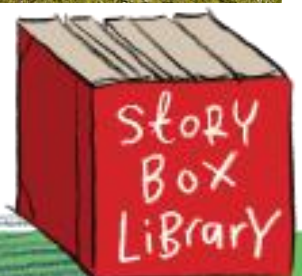
**Activity Age:**  
All ages

## Play a game of Animal Charades

### What you need:

- No equipment required.
- Play this guessing game as a family.
- Family members take it in turns to choose an animal to mime, while other family members try to guess the correct animal.
- Try choosing animals that make good pets or an animal that you would like to have as a pet.
- While you are playing the game, think about how Billy pretended to be a dog and consider the way your chosen animal moves, cleans, eats, plays, sleeps and behaves.

Scan your QR Code  
to view the story.



# Love the story?

## Get busy with Activity Time!



### My Friend Fred

**Author:**  
Frances Watts

**Illustrator:**  
A. Yi

**Publisher:**  
Allen & Unwin  
Australia, 2019

**Themes:**

Animals, Pets,  
Friendship, Family Life,  
Personalities

**Activity Age:**

All ages

## Make a Paper Bag Puppet

### What you need:

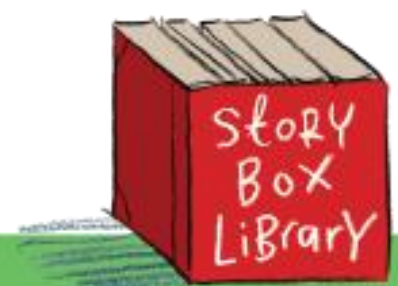
- Paper bag (flat bottomed)
- Black or brown cardstock
- Googly eyes
- Glue
- Scissors
- Textas

1. Get your paper bag ready. The bottom of the paper bag will be the dog's face, and the opening of the paper bag will be the dog's body and neck.

2. With your paper bag in place, glue the googly eyes to the face of the puppet (bottom of the paper bag). If you don't have googly eyes, you can draw the eyes with a texta.

3. Draw a nose and mouth onto the face of the puppet. You could even draw a collar.

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to view the story.



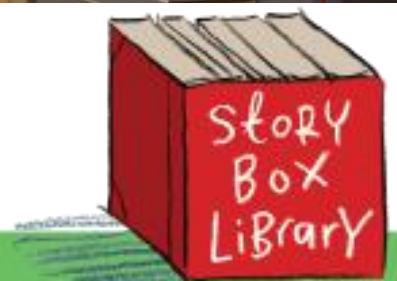


# Love the story?

## Get busy with Activity Time!

4. Use your cardstock to cut two ear shapes and a tail.
5. Glue the two ears to the side of the face.
6. Glue the tail to the back of the puppet.
7. Play with your puppet, re-creating some of Fred's actions, like barking or jumping.

*Use your puppet to retell the story.  
You could even make a paper bag cat.*



# Love the story?

## Get busy with Activity Time!



### One Runaway Rabbit

**Author:**  
David Metzthen

**Illustrator:**  
Mairead Murphy

**Publisher:**  
Allen & Unwin  
Australia, 2019

**Themes:**  
Adventure, Curiosity,  
Neighbourhood, Story

**Activity Age**  
All ages - An adult's help is  
required for this activity

## Create a Shadow Puppet Show

### What you need:

- Small box (e.g. shoe box or cereal box)
- Baking paper
- Dark-coloured cardstock
- Greylead pencil
- Scissors
- Bamboo skewers
- Sticky tape or Masking Tape
- Torch or lamp
- Paints, papers, fabrics (optional)

1. Start by preparing your shadow puppet theatre: Leaving a rectangular border around the outside, carefully cut out the centre from the base of the shoe box. *(Note: you will need to do this to both sides of the box if using a cereal box).*

2. Cut a rectangle of baking paper (slightly larger than hole cut from the base of the box) and sticky tape it over the hole you cut. The opposite side of the box will remain open so you can access it for your puppet show.

3. Stand your box on its side and decorate it using paints, markers, patterned papers or fabric.

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# Love the story?

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4. Prepare your shadow puppets: Choose characters and objects from the story to draw onto dark coloured cardstock. (e.g. rabbit, butterfly, mouse, fox, gnome, house etc.). *You will be cutting these out, so simple shapes with minimal details are recommended.*

5. Cut out your shapes and attach them to the bamboo skewers to create your shadow puppets. *Note: You will be holding the bamboo skewers from above, so the objects should be taped to the bottom of the bamboo skewers.*

6. Now you are ready to perform your puppet show. Position your torch behind your puppet theatre and turn it on to shine towards the baking paper.

7. Invite your family and friends to sit in front of your puppet theatre.

8. Sit behind your puppet theatre and drop your shadow puppets into the scene from above. With the light shining from behind, a shadow will be created for your audience to see.

***Use your puppets to put on a show.***

***Retell the story or make up your own.***

### **Extra Tips:**

- Use your hands or small toys to create shadows as an alternative to drawing and cutting your own shadow puppets.



# Love the story?

## Get busy with Activity Time!



### Goodbye House, Hello House

**Author:**  
Margaret Wild

**Illustrator:**  
Ann James

**Publisher:**  
Allen & Unwin  
Australia, 2019

**Themes:**  
Home, Memories,  
Environment

**Activity Age:**  
Lower Primary

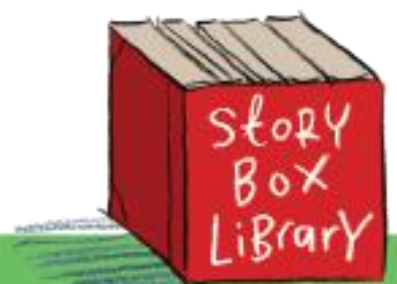
## Make a Peek-a-Boo House

### What you need:

- Coloured card stock or paper
- White cardstock or paper
- Coloured pencils
- Scissors
- Glue
- A photo of yourself
- A long bamboo skewer
- Masking tape

1. Draw a shape of a house onto the coloured card stock, along with lots of doors and windows (large enough that they can later be cut to fold open).
2. Cut around the outline of the house.
3. Cut three edges of each window and door so that they can fold open and closed.

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# Love the story?

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4. Decorate the front of the house to look like yours.

5. Glue your house to a piece of white cardstock, only glue the top and side edges.  
***Don't glue the bottom edge!***

6. Open each window and door and fill the white spaces with pictures of each room of your house. Remember to include your favourite features of each room in your picture.

7. Cut a photo of yourself and tape it to the top of the bamboo skewer.

8. From the bottom of the house insert your puppet-self into the space between the two pieces of paper and try to visit each room, opening and closing the windows and doors as you enter and leave each room.

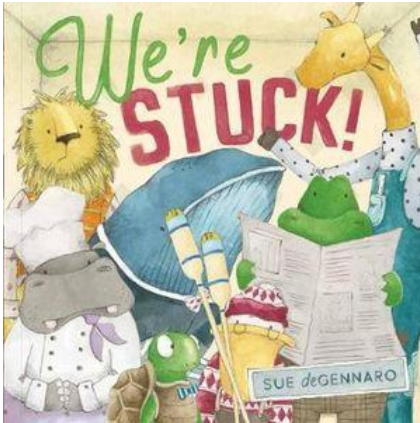
***What's hiding behind each of your windows and doors?***

***Play a game with a friend. Write clues on each window and door of your Peek-a-Boo House before showing a friend the parts of your home you love the most.***



# Love the story?

## Get busy with Activity Time!



### We're Stuck!

**Author:**  
Sue deGennaro

**Illustrator:**  
Sue deGennaro

**Publisher:**  
Scholastic Press  
Australia, 2019

**Themes:**  
Problem-solving, STEM,  
Simple Machines

**Activity Age:**  
All ages

## Build a Model Lift

### What you need:

- Internet access
  - Pencil and paper
  - Shoe box or cereal box to use as a lift shaft
  - Small box or container (e.g. tea bag box, strawberry punnet) to use as a lift car
  - Other materials, such as cardboard rolls, straws, dowel, string, masking tape and cotton reels to replicate the workings of a simple machine.
- Begin with an online search to learn about the six classical simple machines: levers, wheels and axles, pulleys, inclined plane, wedge and screw.
  - Find videos clips online that show how lifts work and what simple machines are used to build and operate a lift. It might be useful to watch these before you start designing and building.
  - Think about how you could use your materials to replicate these simple machines in a model lift (e.g. your cotton reel or cardboard roll could be used as a pulley).

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# Love the story?

## Get busy with Activity Time!

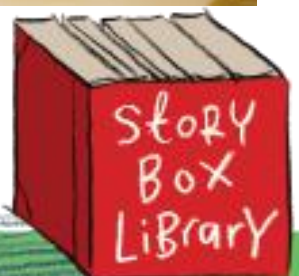
- Use your pencil and paper to draw a plan for your model lift and collect the materials you need.
- Build your model lift. Take your time. There may be some trial and error involved.
- Test your model lift and make adjustments, especially if you find that your first plan doesn't work.
- Decorate the front of your lift. Maybe you'd like to add buttons or doors.

*Use your finished lift to retell the story.*

*Think about how lifts work and why they might get stuck!*

### **Extra tips:**

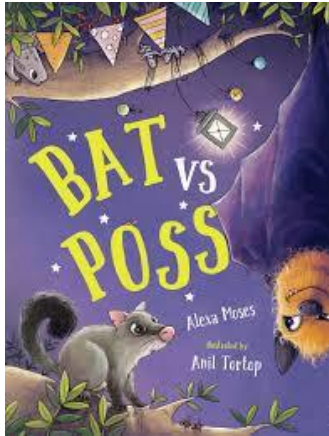
- This activity is all about trial and error and testing your ideas, but if you're really stuck (excuse the pun!), there are many YouTube clips that can show you specific steps to follow, some use the pulley system and others replicate hydraulics. Just search for 'build a model lift' or 'build a model elevator.'
- Parents of young children could simply leave out some materials for their children to experiment with, without the need to understand the theory behind simple machines. Because, as we know, children learn best through play.





# Love the story?

## Get busy with Activity Time!



### Bat vs Poss

**Author:**  
Alexa Moss

**Illustrator:**  
Anil Tortop

**Publisher:**  
Hachette  
Australia, 2019

**Themes:**  
Animals, Australia,  
Community, Nature,  
Friendship,  
Environment, Sharing  
Emotions, Home

**Activity Age:**  
All ages

## Decorate a Community Tree

### What you need:

- Craft materials as required (e.g. fabric, string, baubles, wool, paper, paints, recycled materials etc.)
- Take another look at the story to find all of the beautiful decorations in the animal's paperbark tree.
- Use the paperbark tree in the story to inspire a community tree in your local area. Start by choosing a suitable tree in your neighbourhood.
- Use the illustrations as inspiration and think of some decorations you can make for your tree. Some examples include:
  - Decorating a bauble
  - Making a hanging pom-pom
  - Constructing a bunting or garland (out of leaves or fabric)
  - Knitting or crocheting a sleeve for a branch
  - Making or painting a lantern
  - Folding paper boats

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# Love the story?

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- You might even consider making a possum nest or a bird feeder to attract native animals to the tree.

- When planning your decorations, consider:

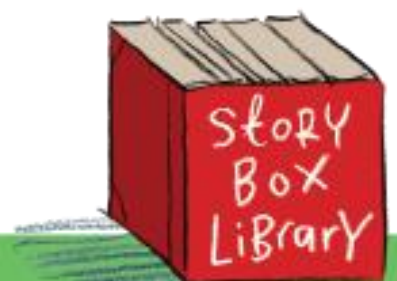
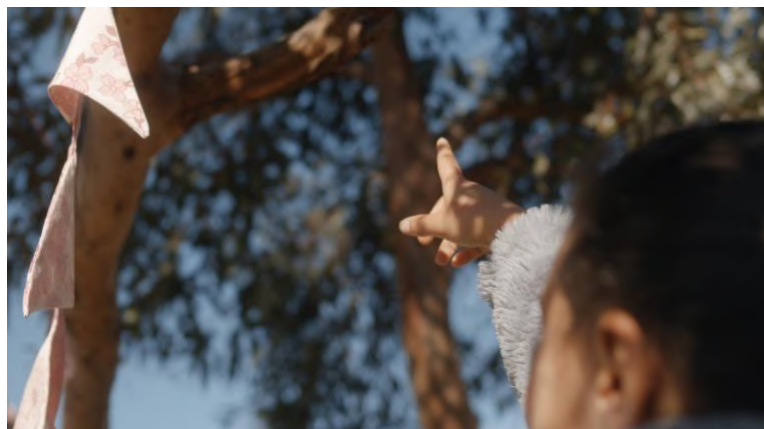
- How well they will stand up in weather conditions like rain and wind.
- Using materials that won't harm animals or the environment.
- Using colours that make people in your community smile.
- Creating decorations that symbolise a welcoming and friendly community.

- Hang your finished decorations in the tree, ensuring they are secured safely so they won't blow off the tree.

- Invite friends and neighbours to contribute to the tree.

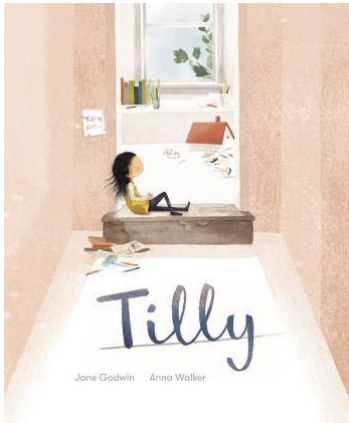
- Visit the tree regularly to check on the decorations. Remove any that have disintegrated due to the weather.

***Observe the effect your community tree has on your neighbourhood.***



# Love the story?

## Get busy with Activity Time!



### Tilly

**Author:**  
Jane Godwin

**Illustrator:**  
Anna Walker

**Publisher:**  
Scholastic Press  
Australia. 2019

**Themes:**

Home, Family Life,  
Secrets, Belongings,  
Memories, Location

**Activity Age:**

All ages

## Play a game of Hide the Treasure

### What you need:

- A collection of personal treasures
  - A box (optional)
  - Family or friends to play with
- 
- Prepare a collection of your personal treasures to hide.
  - Explore your home and garden, searching for good hiding spots to hide your treasure.
  - Secretly, hide your treasures.
  - Prepare clues to help your partner find the treasures. You could:
    - Write your clues
    - Draw your clues
    - Prepare a map

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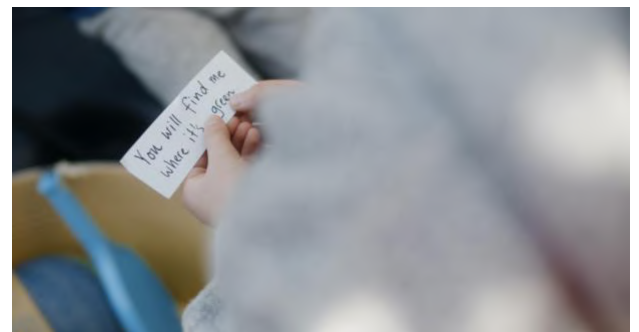


# Love the story?

## Get busy with Activity Time!

- Think about how to clearly communicate your clues:

- Use words such as *on*, *under* and *near* to describe the position of your treasures.
- Use adjectives to describe your hiding places, such as the colour or size of your hiding place.
- Use words such as *near* or *far* to describe how close your partner is to the hiding spot.

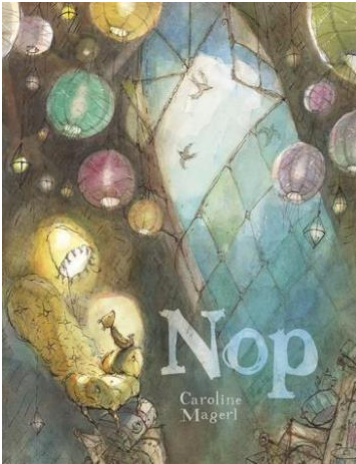


***As you hide and find your treasures, chat about the features of your home. Do you have a favourite spot in your home?***



# Love the story?

## Get busy with Activity Time!



### **Nop**

**Author:**  
Caroline Magerl

**Illustrator:**  
Caroline Magerl

**Publisher:**  
Walker Books  
Australia, 2019

**Themes:**  
Imagination, Creativity,  
Toys

**Activity Age:**  
All ages

## Makeover an Unused Toy

### **What you need:**

- A plush toy you haven't played with for some time
- Craft items you can find in your Arts and Craft stash (e.g. fabric, ribbons, string, buttons, scarves, etc.)
- Art materials such as scissors, tape etc.

- Take a look in your stash of arts and craft materials for items you could use to 'bedazzle' a toy you haven't played with for a while.

- Decide what you will make from your chosen materials. E.g.
  - *Bead buttons onto string to make a necklace*
  - *Glue feathers to a length of ribbon for a headband*
  - *Thread beads onto string for a bracelet*
  - *Sew fabric to make a dress or skirt*
  - *Make a bowtie from a piece of ribbon*

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to view the story.





# Love the story?

## Get busy with Activity Time!

- Once you've decided on your ideas, get busy making.
- Don't stop at one accessory. You can really bedazzle your toy with lots of accessories.
- Once finished, dress your toy in your handmade accessories.



***Put your toy on show in a special place in your room or take him on some of your adventures!***





# Love the story?

## Get busy with Activity Time!



### Three

**Author:**  
Stephen Michael King

**Illustrator:**  
Stephen Michael King

**Publisher:**  
Scholastic Press  
Australia, 2019

**Themes:**  
Animals, Insects, Nature

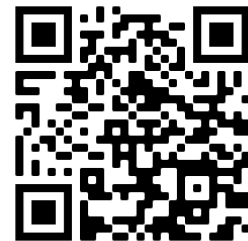
**Activity Age:**  
All ages

## Go on an Insect Hunt

### What you need:

- Magnifying glass
  - Pencil
  - Paper
  - Clipboard
- Take notice of the world around you by exploring your own garden, looking for bugs and insects.
  - Use a magnifying glass to help you find all the creatures living there. You may need to look closely in the soil and on plants, or shake branches gently to help you find the insects.
  - Use a clipboard, pencil and paper to draw the creatures you find, taking notice of their special features and how many legs they have.

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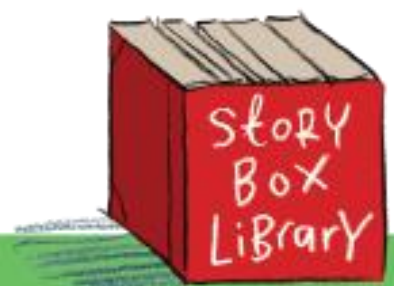


# Love the story?

## Get busy with Activity Time!

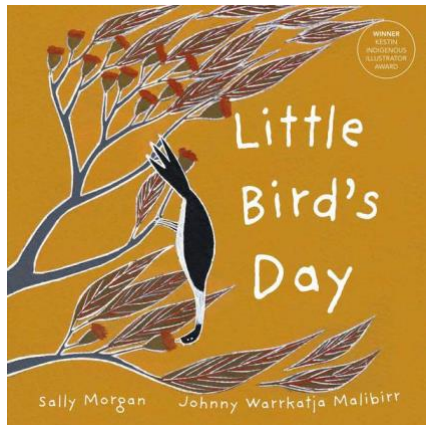
- Back inside, discuss how the insects are similar and different, answering questions such as how many legs does each creature have? or which insects had wings? etc.
- Use books or search online to help you name the insects or try to find answers to any other questions you have about the creatures you find in your garden.

*Remember, for your safety and for theirs, you should take care before touching creatures and insects, and ensure they are safe for humans to handle.*



# Love the story?

## Get busy with Activity Time!



### Little Bird's Day

**Author:**  
Sally Morgan

**Illustrator:**  
Johnny Warrkatja  
Malibirr

**Publisher:**  
Magabala Books  
Australia, 2019

**Themes:**  
Indigenous histories and  
cultures, Animals,  
Nature, Environment,  
Weather, Story

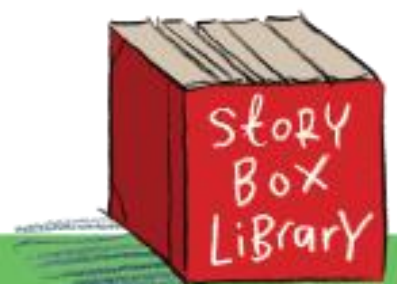
**Activity Age:**  
For all ages

## Create Story Stamps

### What you need:

- Craft foam sheets
  - Pencil
  - Scissors
  - Toothpick (or bamboo skewer)
  - Glue
  - Wooden blocks or jar lids
  - Ink (or dish sponge and paint)
  - White paper
- Make a list of the symbols of nature that appear in the story (e.g. sun, leaves, cloud, raindrop, echidna etc.).
  - Use a pencil to draw these symbols of nature onto your craft foam sheets. Draw these as simple shapes without details.
  - Cut these shapes from the foam- some images might need to be made from a combination of shapes (e.g. the sun might be made from a circle and a number of thin rectangular strips).

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to view the story.





# Love the story?

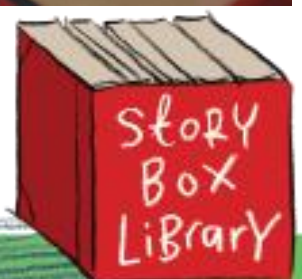
## Get busy with Activity Time!

- Use a toothpick or bamboo skewer to scratch marks, lines and patterns onto the shapes (look at the patterns in the illustrations for inspiration).

*Alternatively, you might be able to purchase pre-cut foam shapes from a craft store if you don't want to make your own.*

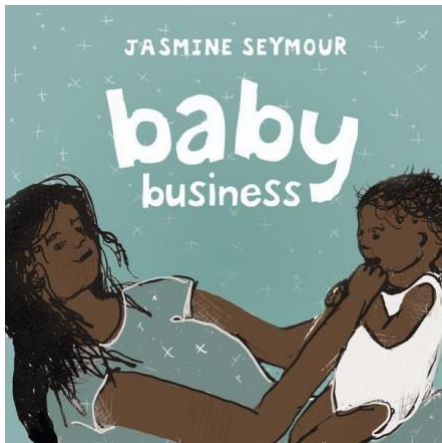
- Glue the foam shapes onto wooden blocks or jar lids.
- Set aside to dry before use.
- Once dry, press your stamps into ink and press onto paper (or make your own ink pad by squeezing acrylic paint onto a sponge).
- Use the stamps to retell the story.

***Symbols are a great way to tell stories. What new stories can you make using the nature symbols on your new story stamps?***



# Love the story?

## Get busy with Activity Time!



### Baby Business

**Author:**  
Jasmine Seymour

**Illustrator:**  
Jasmine Seymour

**Publisher:**  
Magabala Books  
Australia, 2019

**Themes:**  
Family, Traditions,  
Ceremonies, Indigenous  
Society and Culture,  
Environment, Nature,  
Language

**Activity Age:**  
All ages

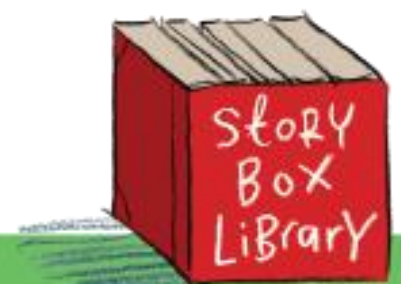
## Make a Nature Card for a New Baby

### What you need:

- Blank cards or cardstock
- Items collected from nature (leaves, flowers etc.)
- Charcoal
- Pen, markers and paints
- Envelope

- *Baby Business* is about the rituals of welcoming a baby into a family.
- Before you start, talk with your family about the rituals your family observes when babies are born (e.g. visits, gifts, etc.), and what makes your family special and unique.
- Use your discussion to help you make a very special card for a new baby joining your family (it can be an immediate, extended or adopted family member).
- Prepare your blank card by folding a piece of cardstock in half.

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to view the story.





# Love the story?

## Get busy with Activity Time!

- Start by writing a welcome a message on the front of the card.

- Be inspired by the story and look for natural materials found in your local area to create images on the front of the card. For example:

- Search an unused campfire for remnants of charcoal (or you could buy some from an art shop)
- Look for bark or clay that leave marks on a surface
- Mix flowers or berries with water to make coloured paints
- Make a nature paintbrush by securing leaves or grasses to the end of a stick.

- Write a personal message on the inside of the card that welcomes the baby to your unique and special family. For example:

- Tell them something about your family that they can look forward to (e.g. *You will love Nannie's cuddles*)
- Tell them one of your family's most important rules (e.g. *In our family, we are always kind to others*).

- Give the card to a new baby who has arrived in your family or keep it safe for a day when a new member joins your family.



***If you don't want to make a baby card, maybe you could make a card for a family member, thanking them for being an important part of your family.***

